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125 EXTREMELY HEAVY RAINFALL EVENTS IN SEPTEMBER, OCTOBER

India recorded 89 extremely heavy rainfall events in September and 36 in October, the India Meteorological Department said

HIGHEST NUMBER OF EXTREME EVENTS IN 5 YRS

This is the highest in five years, the weather department noted. The main causes of such disastrous weather episodes, according to the IMD, include the late withdrawal of the monsoon, a higher than normal number of low-pressure systems during the period and the interaction of active western disturbances with low-pressure systems in October

LATE WITHDRAWAL OF S-W MONSOON

- Nine low-pressure systems, including two cyclones, one deep depression and six lows affected the country during Sept-Oct
- Southwest monsoon withdrew on Oct 25 against usual Oct 15
- India recorded 61 extremely heavy rainfall events in September last year, while October 2020 witnessed 10 such events

204.4 mm

RAINFALL RECORDED ABOVE THIS IS CONSIDERED 'EXTREMELY HEAVY'

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Mixed bag for saffron party in K'taka bypolls

Cong's Mane wins Hanagal, BJP's Bhusanur secures Sindagi; Results also raise questions over JDS' political relevance

BANSY KALAPPA @Bengaluru

KARNATAKA Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai's celebrations of completing '100 days' in office this Deepavali could be a little hushed with the solid drubbing the BJP received at the Hanagal Assembly constituency in his home district of Haveri.

As a consolation, the saffron party sailed through in the Sindagi bypoll with party candidate Ramesh Bhusanur winning the seat by over 31,000 votes against his nearest rival Ashok Managuli of Congress.

Though Bommai and his army of ministers fought hard, the party lost the election at the Hanagal Assembly segment, which is sandwiched between the constituencies of four BJP heavyweights – Bommai's Shiggaon, former chief minister BS Yediyurappa's Shikaripura, Assembly Speaker Vishweshwar Hegde Kageri's Sirsi and minister BC Patil's Hirekerur.

But the signals were quite apparent from the beginning as an internal survey done by the party had shown that the party could face an uphill task in the constituency. Soon after the survey, party national general secretary BL Santhosh had rushed to meet Yediyurappa, urging him to join the campaigning. P4

SINDAGI
- RAMESH BALAPPA BHUSANUR (BJP) - 93,865 votes (57.31%)
- ASHOK MALLAPPA MANAGULI (INC) - 62,680 (38.27%)
- NAZIYA ANGADI (JDS) - 4,393 (2.68)
- NOTA - 1,031 (0.63%)

HANAGAL
- SRINIVAS MANE (INC) - 87,490 (50.95%)
- SHIVARAJ SHARANAR SAJJANAR (BJP) - 80,117 (46.65%)
- NIYAZ SHAIK (JDS) - 927 (0.54%)
- NOTA - 529 (0.31%)

Climate change? Himachal warms up to Congress

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ New Delhi

GOING strictly by the numbers, it was a tie. Of the 32 seats up for grabs in the by-elections, 29 Assembly and three Lok Sabha seats, the results of which were declared on Tuesday, the Bharatiya Janata Party and its allies won 16 and the remaining were bagged by the opposition parties led by the Congress and the Trinamool Congress.

But the bragging rights can be said to have been won by the opposition for at least three reasons. One, in BJP-ruled Himachal Pradesh, which will see Assembly polls next year, the Congress bucked the trend of ruling parties enjoying an advantage in bypolls, bagging all the four seats.

Second, the Trinamool's steam roller victory in West Bengal over the BJP, which lost its deposit in three of the four seats, further denuded the saffron party. Third, was the BJP's setback in Rajasthan, where its candidates slipped to third and fourth positions in the two seats where by-elections were held.

CONTINUED ON: P11

Hurt by your conduct, Capt tells Sonia, quits

HARPREET BAJWA @Chandigarh

FORMER Punjab chief minister Capt Amarinder Singh on Tuesday formally snapped ties with the Congress and announced his new outfit, the Punjab Lok Congress.

He wrote to Congress president Sonia Gandhi saying he was deeply hurt by her conduct as also that of her children Rahul and Priyanka for propping up Navjot Singh Sidhu as the president of the state unit of the Congress. "I actually felt deeply hurt by your conduct and that of your children... I hereby tender my resignation from the Indian National Congress in the interest of my state and my country," his letter read. CONTINUED ON: P12

ED, I-T go after NCP's Deshmukh, Ajit Pawar

SUDHIR SURYAWANSHI @ Mumbai

Ajit Pawar

Anil Deshmukh

A special holiday court on Tuesday remanded ex-Maharashtra home minister Anil Deshmukh to the Enforcement Directorate's custody till November 6, hours after his arrest following 13 hours of questioning in connection with a money laundering case.

Additional sessions judge P B Jadhav, who presided over the special holiday court in Mumbai, passed the remand order after hearing the arguments of Additional Solicitor General Anil Singh appearing for the central agency and senior advocate Vikram Chaudhari, Deshmukh's counsel.

The ED sought 14-day custody of the NCP leader but the court granted only five days. Deshmukh's counsel argued that his client is a senior citizen with a dislocated shoulder that needs constant care and support. Besides, Deshmukh is also suffering from several ailments and hence, he should not be arrested as long as he is cooperating with investigations. Chaudhari argued. The ED said it has fresh evidence and needs custodial interrogation of Deshmukh for further probe. P12

NATIONWIDE	NOV 01	NOV 02
Fresh cases	12,514	10,423
Recoveries	12,718	15,021
Deaths	251	443

KARNATAKA	NOV 01	NOV 02
Fresh cases	188	239
Recoveries	2	5
Deaths	318	376

Half the dists in state add zero Covid cases

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

AMID fears of the new SARS-CoV-2 Delta sub-lineage triggering another Covid surge, Karnataka on Tuesday saw a half of all the districts reporting zero Covid-19 cases.

Fifteen of the 30 districts in Karnataka had no Covid cases. This includes the 31st district Vijayanagara which, in the health bulletin, is included under Ballari and it is among the 15 to record zero cases.

While Bengaluru alone added 139 cases on Tuesday, the rest 100 were reported in 14 other districts, most of them in single digits.

The high concentration of infections in Bengaluru Urban is indicated by the fact that of the total 8,370 active cases across the state, 6,424 are from the state capital. P6

6,424

active cases in Bengaluru, making the capital city the current hotspot in the state

Bitcoins not found yet in Sriki scam

BALA CHAUHAN @ Bengaluru

NOTORIOUS hacker Srikrishna Ramesh alias Sriki, whose crime has sparked a raging political controversy in the State, "does not have any bank account in India or overseas nor have the law enforcement agencies, which are investigating him found any bitcoins with him," informed sources told TNIE.

The Central Crime Branch (CCB) of City police, which had arrested him in November last year on drug charges, has taken the help of technical and digital experts from the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) and Department of e-governance to track the bitcoins, but "no bitcoins have been found in his possession so far. This could also be because the bitcoin exchanges that were questioned/probed in the case didn't maintain Know Your Customer (KYC) norms," the source said. P9

EXPRESS READ

For next yr budget, FM reviews tax exemptions

New Delhi: The Union finance ministry, which has started work on Budget 2022-23 and is reviewing both personal and corporate tax exemptions, has hinted that it might roll back some concessions for industry. Ministry is currently assessing both the economic costs and benefits of schemes. P15

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